



ADMINISTRATION AND
MANAGEMENT

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING
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DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: President's Quality Award (PQA) Program

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has announced the year 2001 PQA cycle. The program application guidelines will be available for distribution at some point in May. Each Military Department is responsible for selecting their best applications, not to exceed six total. These selections must be received by the Office of Secretary of Defense Quality Management Office (OSD-QMO) no later than 20 September.

For Defense Agencies and Joint Activities to be considered for examination and referral, organizations must announce, no later than 10 May, their intent to forward applications to OSD-QMO. Submittal deadline for Defense Agencies and Joint Activities is 21 August. These applications will be examined during the week of 11 - 15 September in Rosslyn, VA. OSD-QMO will select up to six Defense Agency/Joint Activity applications. Defense Agency and Joint Activity applicants must supply a representative from their organization to participate in the examination process during this week.

This award program is the most rigorous of all quality-related award programs and requires extensive input. The criteria are comprehensive, based on proven best practices of high performing organizations. The OPM examination process provides to the President a recommendation of those organizations that should be recognized as a role model for the entire Federal Government.

Mr. Tom Laccone serves as the Department of Defense coordinator and point of contact for this effort. Individuals may inquire about the program, request copies of the PQA booklets, or an advanced electronic file of the PQA criteria by calling (703) 588-8148, DSN 425-8148, or using email address lacconet@osd.pentagon.mil.

D. O. Cooke
Director

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